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THE EUROPEAN WAR CLOUD.

I'm the European cloud of war:
I'm never out of sight.
I don't know what they keep me for—
They never have a fight.
But I'm forever on the list;
At every passing hap
They tell me I'll be sadly missed
If I were not on tap.

A chancellor may quit his job,
A prince his land displease,
Or friendly notables hobnob;
The queen may simple sneeze.
The king may slightly crook his thumb
At czar or emperor,
And trouble certainly will come—
"Behold the cloud of war."

I've hovered over Europe here
Until I'm tired out.
I'm now a chestnut old and sear,
But yet I'm talked about.
The news-makers in me delight,
For they know what I'm for.
When news is scarce they always write
About the cloud of war.

— *Chicago Herald.*

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND RADICAL PEACE SOCIETY.

The Emperor of Germany addressed.

The Rhode Island Radical Peace Society held its twenty-third anniversary in the large parlor of Blackstone Hall, Providence, R. I., April 27. The meeting was opened with silent prayer. Then Mr. Samuel Austin directed attention to portions of the Scripture appropriate to the occasion.

President Levi K. Joslin, referring to the progress of the movement, recalled the time when the society was started in the Friends Meeting House in 1867. Two instances this year, however, marked a favorable change in public sentiment. At the Paris Exposition the Universal Peace Society gained a gold medal for an exhibit. President Alfred H. Love of Philadelphia had also been presented with the Ribbon of the Legion of Honor by the Government of France.

Recording Secretary Charles H. Plummer read a letter from President Love containing mutual congratulations on the success of Senator Sherman's arbitration measure, and the recommendation by the Pan-American Conference of international arbitration, also the success of the Vice President Stollmeyer in the settlement of a national quarrel in Venezuela. Communications of regret at absence were received from Rev. Augustus Woodbury and U. S. Senator N. Aldrich. Corresponding Secretary Charles H. Plummer read the yearly report, stating that engrossed resolutions had been sent to the Government of Japan; petitions circulated against military training in the High School; letters to President Harrison and Secretary Blaine advising as to appointments.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President—Levi K. Joslin; Vice President—Annie Lothrop; Recording Secretary—Cornelius C. Plummer; Corresponding Secretary—Charles H. Plummer; Treasurer—Shubael S. Howes; Executive Committee—L. K.

Joslin, C. H. Plummer, Frank Gallagher, Rose C. Joslin, C. C. Plummer, Robert A. Lothrop, Mrs. S. S. Howes.

President Joslin then introduced a series of resolutions.

Resolved, That the wholesale wounding and killing of innocent human beings called war, at the behest of those who administer governments and against the rights of the people, is cruel, barbarous and wicked.

Resolved, That for the settlement of all disputes between nations there is a better way. By conciliation, negotiation and arbitration.

Resolved, That we deprecate the effort of some Congressmen to create for United States a large navy of battle ships and cruisers, entailing an expenditure of more than \$300,000,000 on the people in the form of taxes, and rendering our peace less secure.

Resolved, That working people are properly protesting against war, as they suffer most from its torture and death, and, by labor, pay its costs.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the present success and prospects of the peace cause. First, by the action of the Pan-American Congress, declaring conquest inadmissible under American public law, and its provisions for arbitration. Second, through the power and interest of the Pope in urging peace and arbitration. Third, by the action of both Houses of Congress, requesting the President to negotiate treaties of arbitration with other Governments. Fourth, by the meeting of Congresses of all nations for the universal good, and by reports from Europe of dissatisfaction with her great armies and overtures for peace.

Resolved, That we have heard with feelings of profound appreciation the reports that the Emperor of Germany proposes a pacific policy towards France, and also the reduction of the armies of Europe. For these acts of world-wide statesmanship and philanthropy, as well as for the Labor Congress, which he inaugurated at Berlin in the interest of all nations, we extend to him our sincere thanks and congratulation, and we invoke him to do great service to man by calling a World's Peace Congress.

Resolved, That a copy of the above, signed by our President and Secretary, be forwarded to the Emperor of Germany.

Mr. Amos Perry, in speaking of the above, said people were now coming to believe that the money spent in supporting armies should be used in education. As an instance of reform, he said that when fifty-seven years ago he was at Harvard, there was a military company, now there was none. He believes the associations of military drill lead to intemperance and immorality. At his suggestion the following resolution was attached to those before mentioned.

Resolved, That we protest against the proposed increase of military expenditure by the Legislature of Rhode Island, believing it to be of no benefit to the people, while it takes too much money from the taxpayers.

Mr. Frank Gallagher narrated his experience of army life. He advocated the inculcation of peace principles in public school children, through distribution of literature, offering of prizes for essays, and reform in reading books and history text books. He thought one company of light infantry might be maintained as a precaution in case of a civil riot. After a few words from Samuel Austin the meeting closed.

Rev. Charles B. Rice of Danvers, Mass., who is not only an honored minister of the gospel, but has been a wise participant in public affairs as a member of the Massachusetts Legislature, said to us that he "considered the Pan-American Conference with the opening and closing addresses by its President, Secretary of State Blaine, as the most important movement in the interest of peace which this generation has witnessed." Many other leading men are equally impressed with the grand outcome of this new endeavor after international concord.